

Table 2.1: Demographic Characteristics and Cognitive Functioning of Participants in Baseline Assessment^{1,2}

Demographics, Disability, and Cognitive Functioning ³	Total (N=1002)	Age Group			Disability Level		
		65-74 (N=388)	75-84 (N=311)	85+ (N=303)	Moderate ⁴ (N=343)	ADL Difficulty	
						Receives No Help (N=378)	Receives Help (N=181)
Age (%)							
65-74	44.2				49.1	42.6	38.2
75-84	40.7				40.2	40.6	42.2
85+	15.1				10.7	16.8	19.7
Disability level (%)							
Moderate ⁴	35.4	39.4	34.9	25.0			
ADL difficulty: receives no help	47.5	45.9	47.4	52.8			
ADL difficulty: receives help	17.1	14.8	17.7	22.3			
Race (%)							
Black	28.3	33.0	26.4	19.7	32.4	23.1	33.9
White	71.1	65.6	73.6	80.3	67.2	76.2	65.0
Other	0.6	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7	1.1
Years of education ⁵ (%)							
0-8	40.5	33.5	44.9	49.4	41.0	38.7	44.7
9-11	23.1	29.9	19.9	11.5	23.7	22.9	22.3
12	18.3	21.9	14.3	18.5	19.9	16.5	19.9
More than 12	18.1	14.8	20.9	20.6	15.5	21.9	13.1
Income ⁶ (%)							
Less than \$6,000	17.4	16.9	19.2	14.0	16.3	16.5	22.0
\$6,000-7,999	16.8	15.9	17.6	17.5	18.7	16.9	12.8
\$8,000-9,999	9.7	10.2	9.2	9.6	9.0	11.4	6.6
\$10,000-14,999	13.2	14.5	11.1	14.8	12.4	12.8	15.9
\$15,000-24,999	15.5	18.0	15.3	8.9	17.6	15.9	10.2
\$25,000-34,999	6.9	7.0	7.5	5.1	6.2	6.9	8.5
\$35,000 or more	7.9	7.2	8.8	7.6	6.4	9.4	6.7
Unknown/refused	12.6	10.4	11.3	22.6	13.4	10.4	17.3
Marital status ⁷ (%)							
Married	24.5	34.1	20.7	6.3	25.9	21.7	29.2
Widowed	57.3	43.6	64.9	76.6	52.9	60.2	58.2
Separated	3.1	6.0	1.1	0.0	3.9	2.6	2.8
Divorced	7.7	10.9	5.6	4.0	8.4	8.6	3.6
Never married	7.5	5.4	7.7	13.2	9.0	6.9	6.3
Mini-Mental State Examination Score (Mean) ⁸	26.7	27.2	26.6	25.1	26.6	27.0	25.8

(Women's Health and Aging Study, screening and baseline interviews, 1992-1995)

¹ All variables except income have less than 1% missing data. Results are based on non-missing data.

² Descriptive statistics are based on weighted data.

³ Categories for each item may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

⁴ No ADL difficulty; disabled in two or more domains (see Chapter 1).

⁵ What is the highest grade in school or year of college that you completed?

⁶ What was your household's total income from all sources, before taxes in [PREVIOUS YEAR]? Social Security, retirement income, job earnings, public assistance, help from relatives, rent from property, and any other income should be included. (If the subject did not know or refused to respond, she was shown a card with income ranges and asked to pick a range.)

⁷ Are you now married, or are you widowed, separated, divorced, or have you never been married?

⁸ Folstein MF, Folstein SE, McHugh PR. (1975). 'Mini-Mental State.' A practical method for grading the cognitive state of patients for the clinician. J Psychiatr Res 12:189-98.